

Of

## Ralph Lewis Day

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WHEREAS, Ralph Lewis was born on April 25, 1928 in Madison County and raised in a musical family where he picked up mandolin and guitar at an early age and began travelling with his brother playing music; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Lewis was not born in Asheville but settled here after his military service and started the Lewis Refrigeration Company based in Candler; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Lewis lead his own band before serving in the US Navy; later he became one of the Blue Grass Boys touring Europe, Japan and the US and appearing regularly on the Grand Ole Opry; and

WHEREAS, in his later years and up until his death, Ralph Lewis was one of the Sons of Ralph playing with his sons Marty and Don; and

WHEREAS, Ralph Lewis passed away on August 5, 2017 at the age of 89 leaving family and friends and a bluegrass legacy that will never be forgotten; and

WHEREAS, it has been said that Ralph Lewis was “adept at both the high lonesome sound of bluegrass and the rhythms of rock and roll and that his music sounded as if it were carved out of the mountains themselves” and this Board wishes to honor the memory of Ralph Lewis and his legendary musical career.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED by the Board of Commissioners for the County of Buncombe as follows:

1. That this Board does hereby honor the memory of Ralph Lewis by declaring April 25 as

## Ralph Lewis Day

in Buncombe County.

2. That this proclamation be presented to the family of Ralph Lewis.

This the 5<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2017.

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS FOR THE  
COUNTY OF BUNCOMBE

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Brownie Newman, Chairman